

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 6, and 7 have been amended herein.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,818,723 to Dimitri (hereinafter referred to as "the '723 patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,440,637 to VanFleet (hereinafter referred to as "the '637 patent") and U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0021058 (hereinafter referred to as "the '058 reference").

Independent claim 1 is directed to a data cartridge library. The claimed library is comprised of: (a) a frame; (b) a shelf system; (c) drive means; (d) a magazine transport device; (e) a cartridge transport device for moving a data cartridge between a data cartridge magazine and the drive means; (f) a power supply; and (g) a conductor for conveying power from the power supply to the drive, with the conductor having a first flat external surface and a second flat external surface that is substantially parallel to the first flat external surface. The drive means is capable of receiving, from a cartridge transport device, a data cartridge that contains a recording medium. Further, the drive means is capable, during operation, of transferring data between a recording medium located within a data cartridge and an environment that is exterior to the drive means.

The '058 reference is directed to a portable data storage drive cartridge 40 that is comprised of a cartridge shell 41 with external interfaces 48, 49. A data storage drive 60 that has a drive interface 52 is enclosed within the shell 41. In one embodiment, the drive 60 comprises a magnetic disk for storing data. A flex cable 65 is located within the shell and extends between external interface 49 and drive interface 52. See paragraphs 0023-0026. To transfer data between the drive 60 and the environment located exterior to the cartridge shell 41, the cartridge 40 is associated with a transfer station port 93 of a library 90. The cartridge 40 is associated with the transfer station port 93 through the operation of a picker 99. See paragraph 0047.

The '058 reference does teach or suggest a conductor for conveying DC power from a power supply to a drive means where the drive means is a structure that is (a) capable of

receiving, from a cartridge transport device, a data cartridge that contains a recording medium; and (b) capable, during operation, of transferring data between a recording medium located within a data cartridge and an environment that is exterior to the drive means. Further, the '058 reference does teach or suggest such a conductor where the conductor has a first flat external surface and a second flat external surface that is substantially parallel to the first flat external surface. The '058 reference also does not teach or suggest the claimed conductor in combination with any of the other elements of claim 1. Further, neither the '723 patent nor the '637 patent remedies the deficiencies of the '058 reference. Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.


Each of claims 2-20 is a dependent claim that depends either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Consequently, each of claims 2-20 is allowable for the reasons noted with respect to independent claim 1. Each of claims 2-20 may be allowable for one or more other reasons, and the applicant expressly reserves the rights to assert any such reasons in the future.

No claim related fees are believed to be due with this response. In the event any such fees are due, please debit Deposit Account 08-2623.

The application now appearing to be in form for allowance, reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HOLLAND & HART LLP

By: 
Christopher J. Kulish, Esq.
Registration No. 33,056
P.O. Box 8749
Denver, Colorado 80201-8749
(303) 473-2700, x2731

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